

REMARKS

Request for Reconsideration

Applicants have carefully considered the matters raised by the Examiner in the outstanding Office Action but remain of the opinion that patentable subject matter is present. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Examiner's position based on the above amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

Claims Status

Claims 1-46 are pending in this Application.

Claims 1-46 have been indicated as allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection based on 35 USC 112.

As discussed below, these amendments have been made and, thus, it is deemed that the case is in condition for allowance.

Specifically, Claims 1, 15, 29 and 43 had been objected to as not providing antecedent basis for "the image data obtained by applying the optimized image processing conditions". Each one of these claims has been amended herein to add antecedent basis for that phrase.

Respectfully, no new matter has been added.

Claims 43-46 had been rejected as being directed to non-patentable subject matter and the Examiner had suggested amending the claims from "memory medium" to "computer-readable medium". Such a suggestion is appreciated and has been adopted herein. Thus, Claims 43-46 have been amended to recite that they are directed to a computer-readable medium. Respectfully, no new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

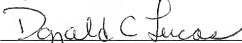
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the Application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Should any fees or extensions of time be necessary in order to maintain this Application in pending condition, appropriate requests are hereby made and authorization is given to debit account #02-2275.

Respectfully submitted,
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